

Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs and Military Installations

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Friday, May 21, 2004

**CONTACT:** Sara Gonzalez, 512-463-2211

**VAN DE PUTTE, CORTE COLLECTING GOODS FOR SOLDIERS  
AND FAMILIES**

**Austin-** Senator Leticia Van de Putte (D-San Antonio), and Representative Frank Corte, Jr. (R-San Antonio), are asking members of the Texas Legislature and Capitol staff for their help in collecting goods in support of currently deployed soldiers and their families. They are also encouraging donations for a college scholarship program called the Travis Fund, which will help send the children of Texas soldiers fallen in Iraq and Afghanistan to college. Donations can be made to the Travis Fund online at [www.travisfund.org](http://www.travisfund.org), or at Travis Fund, c/o Austin Community Foundation, P.O. Box 5159, Austin, Texas 78763.

"These items will help our military families, especially those visiting their service members who are recuperating from injuries suffered in Iraq and Afghanistan in Texas military hospitals. It is our way of visibly demonstrating our thanks and pride," said Senator Van de Putte.

The goods currently being requested for Texas soldiers and their families include the following:

- Coffee mugs
- Long distance phone cards
- Disposable cameras
- Baked goods
- Microwave popcorn
- Candy
- Individually wrapped snacks
- Magazines
- Pens and pencils
- VHS and DVD movies
- Music
- Non-perishable foods
- Hygiene products
- Diapers
- Infant formula
- Dish and laundry detergent

Any additional items are welcome, and the donations will be distributed to family assistance centers at military bases according to their requests. Donations can be delivered to the Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs and Military Installations, located at the Sam Houston Building, 201 E. 14th Street, Suite 470, and to the House Committee on Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations, located in the Capitol Extension, Room E2.160. Donations are not tax-deductible. Questions can be directed to Sara Gonzalez at (512) 463-2211.

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